

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PLO LE MOPS IS
SUBJ: FALASTIN AL-THAWRA EDITORIAL ON SOUTH LEBANON

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: FALASTIN AL-THAWRA EDITORIAL ON
APRIL 10 SUGGESTED PLO IN WAKE OF APRIL 9
AYN AR-RUMANNAH/SHIYAH SHOOT-OUT WOULD NOT SEEK TO
PROVOKE LEBANESE LEFTISTS INTO ARMED CONFRONTATION WITH
CHRISTIANS. IT REITERATED THAT PLO WOULD COOPERATE WITH
UNIFIL AS LONG AS IT CARRIED OUT ITS MISSION OF INSURING
ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL. IT MADE PLAIN THE PALESTINIANS
WOULD NOT WITHDRAW THEIR MILITARY FORCES FROM
SOUTH LEBANON. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING ARE KEY EXTRACTS FROM EDITORIAL IN FALASTIN
AL-THAWRA, WHICH IS CLOSE TO FATAH, AS CARRIED BY WFA'S
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ENGLISH LANGUAGE BULLETIN ON APRIL 10.

3. BEGIN TEXT: "FALASTIN AL-THAWRA, THE PLO
OFFICIAL ORGAN, ASSERTED THAT THE PALESTINIAN
REVOLUTION IS FULLY COMMITTED TO WAGING A WAR OF
RESISTANCE AGAINST THE ISRAELI OCCUPATION OF SOUTH
LEBANON. IN AN EDITORIAL PUBLISHED TODAY, IT ALSO

WARNED ALL LEBANESE FORCES AGAINST FALLING INTO
THE TRAP OF INTERNECINE FIGHTING SO EAGERLY
WISHED BY THE ISOLATIONIST CURRENT WHICH IS
BOLSTERED BY ISRAEL.

4. "CLARIFYING THE PLO POSITION VIS-A-VIS CERTAIN
ESSENTIAL ISSUES, FALASTIN AL-THAWRA REITERATED
THAT THE MISSION OF THE UN FORCES WILL BE FACILITATED
AS LONG AS THEY ARE CARRYING OUT THE TASK ASSIGNED
TO THEM, WHICH IS ENSURING AN ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL
FROM OCCUPIED SOUTH LEBANON. ANY ATTEMPT TO WORK AS
A COVER FOR THE ISRAELI OCCUPATION WILL GIVE THE
JOINT FORCES THE FULL RIGHT TO ACT FREELY TO REPEL
THE OCCUPATION.

5. "AS FOR THE MILITARY PRESENCE OF THE JOINT
FORCES IN THE SOUTH, THE EDITORIAL INDICATED THAT THE
PLO CATEGORICALLY REJECTS ALL ISRAELI-BACKED CONDITIONS
AND PLANS WHICH LIMIT THIS PRESENCE IN THE SOUTH AND
IN OTHER PARTS OF LEBANON. IT REITERATED THAT THE
ONLY GUARANTEE FOR REPELLING THE OCCUPATION IS THE
MILITARY PRESENCE OF THE JOINT FORCES; WHEREAS
THE ISOLATIONIST OFFICER SAAD HADDAD IS THE GUARANTEE
FOR A PERMANENT OCCUPATION, AND IS BEING USED AS THE
TROJAN HORSE OF THE ISRAELI-ISOLATIONIST PLAN TO
CREATE A HOSTILE SECTARIAN CANTON IN SOUTH LEBANON.
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6. "WITH REGARD TO THE ACCORDS CONCLUDED BETWEEN THE
REVOLUTION AND THE LEBANESE AUTHORITIES, FALASTIN AL-
THAWRA CONFIRMED THE PLO'S COMMITMENT IN LETTER AND
IN SPIRIT TO THE TEXT OF THESE ACCORDS AND ITS TOTAL
REJECTION OF ANY ATTEMPT TO UNDERMINE THESE AGREEMENTS
WITH A VIEW TO LIQUIDATING THE PALESTINIAN MILITARY
PRESENCE, IN RESPONSE TO ISRAELI DEMANDS." END TEXT.

7. COMMENTS: IN CONDEMNING "THE TRAP OF INTERNECINE
FIGHTING," THE EDITORIAL SUGGESTS FATAH WILL NOT SEEK TO
PUSH LEBANESE LEFTISTS INTO ARMED CONFRONTATION WITH
CHRISTIANS IN WAKE OF AYN AR-RUMANNAH/SHIYAH FIGHTING. IT
REPEATS THAT PLO WILL COOPERATE WITH UNIFIL AS LONG AS
LATTER INSURES ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL, BUT REFRAINS FROM
MAKING EXPLICIT COMMITMENT TO CEASE-FIRE. IT MAKES
PLAIN THE PALESTINIANS INTEND TO MAINTAIN AN ARMED
PRESENCE IN SOUTH LEBANON.
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